



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL

THE ENERGY & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Senate Bill 631: AAC REDUCING UNWANTED TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES

February 24, 2011

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL

The Department of Public Utility Control (Department) welcomes the opportunity to offer comment on Senate Bill No. 631. Senate Bill No. 631 would reduce the number of unwanted telephone directories delivered to the general public by requiring the publishers of residential telephone directories to obtain the consent of the public prior to their delivery.

The Department notes that Senate Bill No. 631, is unclear as to the proposed bill's meaning of "residential telephone directory" and their delivery. That is, is it the intent to require residential customer consent for the delivery of only white page directories (typically, those containing only residential listings)? Or, is it the intent to require directory publishers to obtain consent from the members of the general public before any directory would be delivered to their Connecticut address? Further clarification is necessary so that rules can be developed that the publishers would follow in order to ensure directory delivery to only those members of the public that wants them.

Additionally, the Department's jurisdiction is limited to only those companies subject to Title 16 of the General Statutes of Connecticut (i.e., telephone companies and providers of telecommunications services). The Department is aware that there are other publishers/distributors of telephone directories in the state besides the Title 16 companies. Finally, while the Department assumes that it would be responsible for its enforcement, the proposed bill in its current form does not specifically charge the Department with the authority to ensure that all telephone directories are delivered by the Title 16 companies to only the members of the public that want them.

The Department thanks the Committee for the opportunity to testify on this bill.